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Task Team VI

COSATI Operating Subcommittee

Task Group on Research and Development

in Information Science

MEETING

July 9, 1964

1.   The July 9, 1964 meeting of the COSATI Task Group

on Research and Development in Information Science was held

at 2:00 PM in the Reading Room (Room 719) of the Library of

the Patent Office, Office of Research and Development, 1406

G Street, N. W. Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Ezra

Glaser, Chairman of the Task Group, presided.

Those in attendance were:

Agriculture	—	J. B. Forbes
AEC	—	R. E. Bowman
BOB	—	J. English and P. Schrader
Commerce	—	S. N. Alexander and E. Glaser
DOD	—	Ruth M. Davis
FAA	—	E. P. Kennedy
FCST-OST	—	J. H. Kelly
HEW	—	F. E. Kelsey
NASA	—	V. A. Wente
NSA	—	
NSF	—	H. Birnbaum
Patent Office	—	H. R. Koller, Task Group Staff

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2.   A second draft of the paper "A Federal Program of

Research", dated July 9, 1964, was distributed. (The previous

draft, July 2, 1964 was distributed at the July 6 meeting of

the Task Group.) Mr. Glaser stated that the list of 13 "Areas

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for Initial Coordination" reflects the thinking of the sub-group assigned to draw up a tentative program (see paragraph 10 of the July 6 minutes). These 13 areas are large, identifiable existing segments of research and development activity in information science. In some of these there already exists a degree of coordination of effort. No attempt was made to fully partition the entire universe of the information sciences into mutually exclusive subsets. However, it may be important at a later date to determine whether any important areas have been omitted.

3.   Subgroups of persons were assigned to prepare rough drafts of portions of a report which will make up the Task Group's blue print for a Federal program of R and D in information science. Following a suggestion by Mr. Birnbaum, these drafts should contain:

> 1. A description of the area, subdivided as appropriate.
>
> 2. The necessary research tasks, with priorities.

Recommendations for treating overlaps with other areas, including any which may not be currently included, may also be included. All drafts are to be forwarded to H. R. Koller, R & D, U. S. Patent Office, by July 31, 1964.

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4.   It was agreed to combine areas 1 and 2, and to combine areas 3, 11 and 12. The July 9 list has, therefore, been renumbered. The subgroup assignments follow:

    (1) Machine Translation of Natural Languages and (other) Linguistic Studies - R. See (NSF), Chairman, J. H. Kelly, and one to be designated from NBS.

    (2) Remote Consoles, Inputs and Outputs - S. N. Alexander, Chairman, J. H. Kelly, Mr. Sutherland (DOD), and C. Austin (HEW).

    (3) System Evaluation - V. A. Wente, Chairman, R. See, and E. Glaser.

    (4) Classification of Knowledge - Mrs. H. Brownson (NSF) or R. Angell (Library of Congress), Chairman, J. Forbes, J. Sherrod (AEC), and Mr. Karel (HEW).

    (5) Pattern Recognition - R. M. Davis, and M. E. Stevens (NBS), Co-Chairmen.

    (6) Programming Languages - R. M. Davis and [   ] Co-Chairmen.

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(7) Large File Organization and Behavior - V. A. Wente, Chairman, [   ] (NSA), D. Wilcox (ONR), and R. A. Spencer (Patent Office).

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(8) Encoding of Information - H. R. Koller, Chairman, and one each from DOD and NASA.

(9) User Needs and User Interaction with Information Systems - Mrs. H. Brownson (NSF) or J. Sherrod (Library of Congress), Chairman, and W. H. Baatz (FAA).

(10) The Technological Basis for a National Information Network - J. Forbes, Chairman, V. A. Wente, J. Sherrod, and Marjorie Wilson (National Library of Medicine).

5.   The next meeting of the Task Force will be at 9:30 AM, on Friday, August 7, 1964 at the Patent Office R & D Library, Room 719, 1405 G Street, N. W.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 PM.

Herbert R. Koller
July 10, 1964